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REQUEST For CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL Address to: MAIL STOP RCE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 (Revised 09/2003)	Application Number 10/088,538
	Filing Date June 10, 2002
	First Named Inventor: Thomas N. Masters
	Art Unit: 1617
	Examiner Name: Russell S. Travers
	Confirmation No.: 6926
	Attorney Docket No. 038151/203996
This is a request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.	

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment
- ii. ☐ Affidavits(s)/Declarations(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS); of cites listed on PTO Form 1449
- iv. ☒ Other: Extension of Time

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of ___ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other

In re: Thomas N. Masters

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3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is **required** by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiencies, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

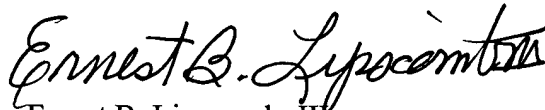
i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
(\$770.00 large entity; \$385.00 small entity)

ii. ☒ Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F. R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$385.00 (RCE fee) and \$475.00 (Ext. of Time Fee) enclosed

Respectfully submitted,



Ernest B. Lipscomb, III
Registration No. 24,733

Customer No. 00826

ALSTON & BIRD LLP

Bank of America Plaza

101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000

Charlotte, NC 28280-4000

Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000

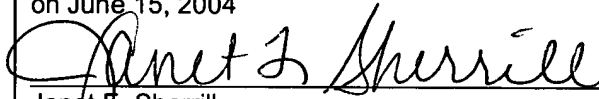
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

CLT01/4652354v1

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,
on June 15, 2004


Janet F. Sherrill



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 10/088,538 Confirmation No.: 6926
Applicant(s): Thomas N. Masters
Filed: June 10, 2002
Art Unit: 1617
Examiner: Russell S. Travers
Title: SOLUTION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF HEARTS

Docket No.: 038151/203996
Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
37 CFR § 1.115**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated December 18, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.